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General Assembly
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Agenda item 30
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-ninth year

Letter dated 18 June 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 18 June 2004, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Reşat Çağlar, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex). I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 30, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Umit **Pamir**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 18 June 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the two letters dated 13 May 2004 and 17 May 2004 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative and circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council (A/58/797-S/2004/391) and (A/58/804-S/2004/399), respectively, which yet again contain allegations of violations of the airspace of the Republic and of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia, and to bring to your kind attention the following:

In response to such false and pretentious allegations, I wish, once again, to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that allegations of so-called violations of the flight information region or violations of air traffic regulations are invalid, as the civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the only competent authority to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services.

As stated in our previous letters, such allegations are based on the false and illegitimate claim that the sovereignty of the Greek Cypriot administration extends over the whole island, including the territory of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This claim by the Greek Cypriot side is divorced from the existing realities in Cyprus, namely, the existence of two independent States, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within and above its respective territory on the island.

Attempts by the Greek Cypriot representatives, through often-repeated false claims, to confer legitimacy upon an illegal administration will be futile as long as the Turkish Cypriot people refuse to bow to its writs. What would indeed be conducive to a better climate on the island would be for the Greek Cypriot side to stop arrogating onto itself the rights and responsibilities it does not legally have, and to cease all hostilities towards the Turkish Cypriot people.

It is understandable that, in the current environment regarding Cyprus in the aftermath of the differing results of the separate referenda held in Cyprus on 24 April 2004, the Greek Cypriot side should try to distract with such letters the international community's focus from the real question about Cyprus. The real and relevant question which, at present, is being widely asked and pondered is that, as you had stated in report S/2004/437 of 28 May 2004, if the Greek Cypriots were ready to share power and prosperity with the Turkish Cypriots in a federal structure based on political equality, this needed to be demonstrated, not just by word, but by action (para. 86).

(*Signed*) Reşat **Çağlar**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

United Nations A/58/845–S/2004/508

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 37
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-ninth year

Letter dated 22 June 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I provide you with the following summary of Israeli violations and acts of aggression against Lebanon:

31 May 2004

At 1430 hours Israeli enemy forces positioned at Labbunah, within the occupied Shab'a Farms, fired a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire at the area surrounding the said position.

At 1945 hours an Israeli military boat in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah fired a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire within the territorial waters.

2 June 2004

At 1044 hours Israeli enemy forces positioned at Ruwaysat al-Alam fired a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire at the area surrounding the said position.

At various times during the night of 2 to 3 June 2004 Israeli enemy forces positioned at Ruwaysat al-Alam, within the occupied Shab'a Farms, fired a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire at the area around Kafr Shuba that caused damage to a livestock fodder storage facility.

3 June 2004

At 1000 hours Israeli enemy forces positioned at Zibdin, within the occupied Shab'a Farms, fired two 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Birkat al-Naqqar.

4 June 2004

At 1745 hours Israeli enemy forces positioned at Al-Summaqah, within the occupied Shab'a Farms area, fired a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire at the area surrounding the said position.

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6 June 2004

At 1025 hours an Israeli military boat in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah fired a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire within the territorial waters.

7 June 2004

At 2245 hours an Israeli military boat in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah fired a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire and a flare bomb within the territorial waters.

8 June 2004

At 0230 hours an Israeli military boat in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah fired a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire within the territorial waters.

Between 0855 and 1000 hours and between 1050 and 1220 hours Israeli enemy forces positioned in the occupied Shab'a Farms area fired a number of 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Birkat al-Naqqar, then raked the area around Ramta hill, Ruwaysat al-Alam and Al-Summaqah, within the occupied Shab'a Farms.

9 June 2004

Between 0845 and 0925 hours Israeli enemy forces positioned in the occupied Shab'a Farms fired a number of 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Birkat al-Naqqar, within the occupied Shab'a Farms.

10 June 2004

At 0925 hours Israeli enemy forces positioned at Al-Summaqah, within the occupied Shab'a Farms, fired a number of rounds at the area surrounding the said position.

Between 1930 and 1945 hours Israeli enemy forces positioned at Ruwaysat al-Alam and Radar hill, within the occupied Shab'a Farms, fired a number of rounds at the area around the said position.

14 June 2004

Between 0040 and 0200 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the sea off Tyre at medium altitude, then proceeded north-east of Khaldah and headed back towards the south, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

16 June 2004

Between 0020 and 0210 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the sea off Tyre at medium altitude, then proceeded north and circled over Na'imah, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

17 June 2004

Between 0720 and 1000 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the sea off Tyre at medium altitude, then headed towards Beirut and circled over Damur and Beirut, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1005 and 1255 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the sea off Tyre at medium altitude, headed towards Beirut and then circled over Sidon and Tyre, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

20 June 2004

Between 1130 and 1200 hours Israeli military aircraft flew at various altitudes over the occupied Shab'a Farms, Ramiyah and Marwahin, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1107 and 2135 hours Israeli military aircraft overflew the sea off Tyre at various altitudes, the headed east and circled over Tyre and Bint Jubayl, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 2125 and 2145 hours Israeli military aircraft flew at various altitudes over the Hawla and Mays al-Jabal, then attacked Jamusah hill, south of the village of Tiri, firing four air-to-ground missiles, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

These grave violations are part of a series of persistent and provocative Israeli violations of Lebanese airspace and territory and are in contravention of the principles of international law and the resolutions of international legitimacy, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations has repeatedly called for their cessation.

In view of these violations and the stepping-up of Israeli threats to Lebanon and the safety of its territory and its citizens, Lebanon calls upon the Security Council to deter and prevent Israel from such dangerous acts, which pose a threat to international security and peace. Israel must assume full responsibility for those acts and for any consequences to which they may give rise.

In drawing your attention to the gravity and possible consequences of such acts, I request to have this letter of complaint circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sami **Kronfol**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/58/846–S/2004/510

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Agenda items 37, 84 and 156

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-ninth year

Note verbale dated 22 June 2004 from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the President of the Security Council, and has the honour to transmit herewith a reply to the Israeli allegations contained in document A/58/837-S/2004/465 dated 8 June 2004 (see annex).

It would be appreciated if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 37, 84 and 156, and of the Security Council.

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Annex to the note verbale dated 22 June 2004 from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Identical letters dated 22 June 2004 from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to clarify the following, in response to the Israeli claims made in document A/58/837-S/2004/465 dated 8 June 2004, which constitutes in its entirety a falsification and a distortion of the facts, and levels baseless accusations against my country in a pathetic attempt by Israel to deceive the international community as usual and justify its terrorism and aggression against the Lebanese people and its occupation of Arab lands.

While Israeli officials continue to make empty claims before the international community relating to Israel's supposed desire for peace, its continued occupation of Arab lands and the arbitrary measures taken by Israel in the occupied Palestinian territory, the occupied Syrian Golan, and against Lebanon, manifestly contradict the statements of these officials.

Israel, the occupying Power, continues to pursue its aggressive course that has been condemned hundreds of times from the standpoint of international legitimacy. It continues to escalate the situation in the Middle East and push the security situation there to the brink of collapse by committing increasing massacres and assassinations in Palestinian territory, making serious threats against the Syrian Arab Republic, and engaging in a series of persistent, almost daily provocative violations of Lebanese sovereignty by land, air and sea, in contravention of the principles of international law and relevant resolutions of international legitimacy.

It is not unknown to the international community that Israel has excused itself from implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and has continued its occupation of Syrian and Palestinian lands from 1967 until now, and parts of Lebanese territory since 1982. It is also not unknown that peoples under foreign occupation do not need anyone to remind them of the reality of occupation and its oppression, and not to accept, and, indeed, to resist it.

The serious escalation carried out by Israel in southern Lebanon is intended merely to divert the attention of the international community from its crimes, consisting of the construction of the expansionist separation wall in the West Bank, the policy of assassinations, the destruction of homes, and the incursions it makes into Palestinian territory, not to mention its unilateral schemes circumventing relevant resolutions of international legitimacy.

It is important to point out that Israel's record as it relates to respecting international legitimacy and implementing its resolutions is not in any way an honourable one. Israel has been in defiance of the United Nations and its resolutions from 1948 until now. General Assembly resolution 181 (II) concerning the Palestinian State has remained on paper since that time. General Assembly resolution 194 (III) concerning the right of return for Palestinian refugees has met with nothing but defiance and denial from Israel. Security Council resolutions 242

(1967) and 338 (1973) seeking the realization of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East are opposed by Israel and encounter all kinds of distortion and infringement. Similarly, the hand of peace outstretched by the Arabs in the Beirut summit of 2002 has been greeted by Israel with the perpetration of the Jenin and Nablus massacres, a series of provocative assassinations of Palestinian leaders, the destruction of thousands of Palestinian civilian homes, and the making of threats against the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon.

Thus, all nations of the world can speak of international legitimacy and of implementing Security Council and General Assembly resolutions except Israel, which has become the symbol of departure from international legitimacy and defiance of its resolutions.

Anyone who follows the Middle East question and the peace process knows that the only way to end the cycle of violence is through returning to international legitimacy and a commitment to the implementation of the resolutions calling for Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands to the line of 4 June 1967, guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including their right of return to their homeland in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194 (II), withdrawal from the occupied portions of southern Lebanon, and returning to the principles of the peace process launched in Madrid in 1991 with the goal of bringing about a comprehensive and lasting peace guaranteeing security and stability for all peoples of the region.

The Syrian Arab Republic wishes to affirm once again its commitment to the principles of a just and comprehensive peace as envisaged in the Madrid and Arab peace initiatives endorsed by the Beirut summit of 2002, and the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy. It has also opposed and continues to oppose terrorism and State terrorism in word and deed, inasmuch as it has actively participated in international cooperation to fight it.

The Syrian Arab Republic believes that the interests of its people dictate calming the situation not only in southern Lebanon but in the entire Middle East, but feels that the facts and evidence show that its efforts towards this objective continue to clash with the continued Israeli occupation of Arab lands and the policy followed by Israel of escalation, defiance and imposition of faits accomplis.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the text of this letter as a document of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 37, 84 and 156, and of the Security Council.

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Security Council
Fifty-ninth year

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Identical letters dated 24 June 2004 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I wish to apprise you of the serious financial situation which continues to plague both the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, owing to the failure of Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full and on time. Notwithstanding approval of the budgets of the Tribunals by the General Assembly, the cash position of the International Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia has continued to deteriorate, as contributions continue to fall short of assessments. At the end of 2002, the Tribunals had had a small cash deficit. At the end of December 2003, there were still 111 Member States which had unpaid contributions totalling over $88 million for the two Tribunals and by the end of May 2004, the situation had worsened further, thereby threatening the future work of the Tribunals.

In this connection, in August 2003, the Controller addressed a letter to each Permanent Representative of all those Member States which had not paid their

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assessed contributions for the two Tribunals, advising that as the cash available for the Tribunals had run out, the Secretariat was forced to resort to borrowing from closed peacekeeping missions. In December 2003, in the absence of improvement in the financial situation, I personally wrote to the Heads of State of those Member States which still had outstanding contributions to the budget of both Tribunals, highlighting my concerns over the impact that such a continuing situation might have on the ability of the Tribunals to implement their completion strategy.

In the light of the worsening situation with outstanding assessed contributions of 146 Member States totalling $152 million as at 31 May 2004, the Controller wrote again on 16 June to the Permanent Representatives of all Member States requesting advice from those whose assessed contributions are outstanding when those contributions might be forthcoming. At the same time, effective May 2004, the Organization had taken steps to freeze recruitment and scale down operations. Unless Member States make significant new payments for the Tribunals in the very near future, further steps will be necessary. I cannot overemphasize the magnitude of the financial crisis facing the Tribunals or the importance of Member States meeting their financial obligations.

As the President of the International Tribunal for Yugoslavia has already indicated in his letter to the Security Council on 21 May 2004 (S/2004/420), the actions taken to date to address the continuing serious financial difficulties faced by the Tribunals present a clear and present danger to the accomplishment of the daily work of the Tribunal, its ability to meet the goals of the Completion Strategy and the integrity of ongoing trials and proceedings. Further, it is my view that the serious financial situation plaguing the Tribunals will call into question the credibility of the United Nations, notably its commitment to bring to trial those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law both in Rwanda and the Former Yugoslavia.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the General Assembly and the Security Council by circulation of it as a document of the Assembly and the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**